

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In an information reproducing apparatus employing a maximum likelihood decoding method such as Viterbi decoding, there is a problem such that power consumption increases because a maximum likelihood decoding circuit is complicated, and many circuit elements must be used. A clock output control means is provided on a read clock transmission line of a maximum likelihood decoder, and no read clock is supplied to the maximum likelihood decoder in operation modes other than a specific operation mode when an input data is decoded by a Viterbi decoder, and thereby, it is possible to greatly reduce a power consumption. More specifically, in operation modes other than the read mode, the supply of read clock is stopped by the clock output control means based on a control signal from a controller for controlling an operation mode such as decoding or the like.

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